

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend claims 1-7, 9-11, 14, 15, 16, 18, 20, 26 and cancel claims 8, 17, 22 and enter new claims 32-37 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A security system reader comprising:

a transceiver that transmits a stimulus signal and that receives a signal containing an authentication code; and,

a processor that determines whether the received authentication code is from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob, and that performs an authentication of the authentication code dependent upon whether the authentication code is from the badge or from the fingerprint keyfob, wherein the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a digitized fingerprint signature and a rolling identifier, and wherein the processor is arranged to perform an authentication of the authentication code based upon both the digitized fingerprint signature and the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob.

2. (Currently Amended) The security system reader of claim 1 wherein the processor merges the digitized fingerprint signature with the rolling identifier to form the authentication code ~~authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein the processor is arranged to perform an authentication of the authentication code based upon both the fingerprint signature and the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The security system reader of claim 1 ~~2~~ wherein the rolling Identifier is provided by in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob ~~comprises a rolling identifier generator.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The security system reader of claim 2 wherein the processor supplies the authentication code to the transceiver, which causes the authentication code to be transmitted in an RF signal ~~fingerpint signature comprises a digitized fingerprint signature.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The security system reader of claim 2 wherein the processor compares the digitized fingerprint signature to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint signatures and also compares the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to an identifier maintained by the processor.

6. (Currently Amended) The security system reader of claim 5 wherein the ~~identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier, and~~ wherein the processor compares the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a rolling identifier maintained by the processor and wherein the rolling identifier is randomly or pseudorandomly generated periodically by the rolling identifier generator.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of providing access comprising:

receiving a signal containing an authentication code; determining whether the authentication code is from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob;

determining whether the authentication code is authentic dependent upon whether the authentication code is from the badge or from the fingerprint keyfob; and,

If the authentication code is authentic, permitting access, wherein the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is

authentic comprises determining whether both the fingerprint signature and the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob are authentic.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the fingerprint signature comprises a digitized fingerprint signature.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises: comparing the fingerprint signature to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint signatures; and, comparing the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately maintained identifier.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately maintained identifier comprises comparing the rolling identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately generated rolling identifier.

13. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of providing access comprising:
receiving a signal containing an authentication code;
determining whether the authentication code is from a badge or a keyfob;
determining whether the authentication code is authentic; and, if the authentication code is authentic, permitting access to a function or process; and
transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code, wherein the authentication code from the keyfob comprises first and second portions, wherein the first and second portions are different types of codes, and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises determining whether both the first and second portions are authentic and wherein the first portion comprises a rolling identifier.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 further comprising providing a rolling identifier generator that generates the rolling identifier ~~transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~15~~ 14 wherein the rolling identifier comprises a code that is randomly or pseudorandomly generated by the rolling identifier generator ~~the authentication code from the keyfob comprises first and second portions, wherein the first and second portions are different types of codes, and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises determining whether both the first and second portions are authentic.~~

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~14~~ ~~16~~ wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic further comprises:

- comparing the first portion to a list; and,
- comparing the second portion to a separately maintained code.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the second portion comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the second portion to a separately maintained code comprises comparing the rolling identifier to a separately generated rolling identifier.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the authentication code from the keyfob comprises a digitized fingerprint signature and an identifier; and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises determining whether both the digitized fingerprint signature and the identifier are authentic.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob comprises a rolling identifier.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original) The method of claim 20 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises:

- comparing the fingerprint signature to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint signatures; and,
- comparing the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob to a separately maintained identifier.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23 wherein the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob to a separately maintained identifier comprises comparing the rolling identifier to a separately generated rolling identifier.

25. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 17 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is from a badge or a keyfob comprises determining whether the authentication code is from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of providing access comprising:

receiving an RF a signal containing an authentication code;

determining whether the authentication code is of a first type or of a second different type;

processing the authentication code in a first manner if the authentication code is of the first type and processing the authentication code in a second different manner if the authentication code is of the second different type in order to determine whether the authentication code is authentic; and,

if the authentication code is authentic, permitting access.

27. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 26 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is of a first type or of a second different type comprises determining whether the authentication code comprises a pre-stored authentication code.

28. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 26 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is of a first type or of a second different type

comprises determining whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a physical characteristic of a human user.

29. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 28 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a physical characteristic of a human user comprises determining whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a fingerprint of a human user.

30. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 26 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is of a first type or of a second different type comprises determining whether the authentication code is a pre-stored authentication code or an authentication code derived from a physical characteristic of a human user.

31. (Previously Submitted) The method of claim 30 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a physical characteristic of a human user comprises determining whether the authentication code is an authentication code derived from a fingerprint of a human user.

32. (New) A method for authenticating a user, comprising:

- analyzing at least one RF signal containing an authentication code to determine whether the authentication code is derived from a keyfob or of a badge;

- processing the authentication code in a first manner if the authentication code is derived from the keyfob and constitutes a keyfob authentication code comprising a digitized fingerprint signature, in order to determine whether or not the authentication code is authentic; and

- processing the authentication code in a second and different manner if the authentication code is derived from the badge and constitutes a badge

authentication code, in order to determine whether or not the authentication code is authentic, and thereby grant a user access, if the authentication code is authentic.

33. (New) The method of claim 32 further comprising determining if the keyfob authentication code derives from the keyfob in order to process the authentication code in the first manner.

34. (New) The method of claim 32 further comprising determining if said badge authentication code derives from the badge in order to process the authentication code in the second and different manner.

35. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein processing the authentication code in a first manner if the authentication code is derived from the keyfob and constitutes a keyfob authentication code comprising a digitized fingerprint signature, in order to determine whether or not the authentication code is authentic, further comprises:

comparing the digitized fingerprint signature of the keyfob authentication code to a list of authentic digitized fingerprint signatures; and

additionally comparing a rolling identifier associated with the keyfob authentication code to a rolling identifier synchronously maintained by a processor that determines if the digitized fingerprint signature of the keyfob authentication code matches at least one digitized fingerprint signature from among the list of authentic digitized fingerprint signatures; and

determining if the rolling identifier of the keyfob authentication code matches the rolling identifier maintained by the processor.

36. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the keyfob authentication code is stored in a memory associated with the keyfob.

37. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein the keyfob and the badge are contained within a single integrated device.